

THE MAINE FARMER: AN



AUGUSTA:
THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 5, 1859.

BOOT TRADE WITH CALIFORNIA.

We notice an article in the *Sacramento Daily Union* of April 4th, headed "The Boot Trade," which speaks of the vast amounts of boots brought to that country from other States, and the very large amount of money paid for them, which money, of course, is carried out of the State.

Our statement was more particularly arrested by that portion of the article relating to an editorial of ours, published in the *Farmer* last November, in regard to the manufacture of boots for the California market, by our neighbor, B. F. Wing, of Wintrop.

Now, as our brethren of the *Union* quotes us as authority in the history of the rise and progress of the Boot business between Maine and California, and which, as we stated, originated in Wintrop, we beg leave to give another chapter upon the subject, in order to post him up more fully in the chronicles of this important branch of trade. By way of preface, we deem it proper to say, that, heavy as may be Mr. B. F. Wing's operations in this business, he is not the only man in Wintrop engaged in manufacturing boots for the California market on a scale equally as great and extensive. We have another Wing also in the trade. It always takes two Wings to make a strong and lofty flight, and we are happy to say that we are well provided for in this respect.

We will here give a statement showing how the "originating of the California boot manufacturing among us" was brought about, and to make it more full and particular, we trust that the individuals whose names we use will forgive us if we enter into a little dom story history by way of introduction of the parties to be spoken of. The firm who commenced the business were known by the style of C. A., & B. F. Wing.

Colonel C. A. Wing, the senior member of the firm, when of sufficient age, was taken into his father's shop, who was a boot and shoemaker, and taught the art and craft in a practical manner by a course of training in a regular apprenticeship through all stages of the business. B. F., his brother, who had more desire for outdoor life, spent his minority on the farm, which his father owned and carried on.

C. A., when twenty-one years of age, commenced business for himself in Wintrop village, and continued it for two or three years alone, when he took his brother, B. F., in, as a partner, also having attained his majority, and preferred to change his occupation from farrowing to shoemaking. They continued the business together up to Sept., 1857—some fourteen or fifteen years, dividing the labor between them, C. A. buying the stock and superintending the manufacture, and B. F. acting as sal man. During the winter of 1849, after repeated consultations with each other, they concluded to try their luck in the California market. They accordingly manufactured a quantity of goods, and B. F., on the 20th of May, '49, left with them to try their luck in offering them in this new field of action, while C. A. remained at home to keep the ship maling during his partner's absence.

Which of the two had the more difficult task, they themselves can say. They had put much of their property into the hazards of a new and hitherto untried experiment.

In due time, B. F. returned, having made a very successful trip. Stimulated by this success, they were induced to try it again, and accordingly they got up 2000 pairs more of boots, with which he started, in December of the same year. In due time he arrived in California, proceeded to Sacramento, and sold his goods in a short time, with what success is better known than to us. During his absence, C. A. still continued the business in motion at home, whether with more or less difficulty, they having invested a large amount in a still new and risky enterprise, only to interfere seriously with the success of the Fair, even should it be appointed on the same week. We do not know why the politicians should have a monopoly of that week to the exclusion of the farmers and mechanics.

ODD FELLOWS CELEBRATION. A brilliant and imposing demonstration of the order of Odd Fellows was had in New York on Tuesday of last week.

At ten o'clock in the morning a procession of the order was formed at Castle Garden, from whence, accompanied by numerous bands of music, it proceeded to Rev. Dr. Chapin's Church, in Broadway, where the "thanksgiving service" was performed. As the procession moved along Broadway, says the *Express*, both sidewalks were lined with dense throngs of people, and every window at which a sight could be obtained was filled with a crowd of anxious faces. The pageant was a gorgeous one, and the several encampments and lodges—Grand and Subordinate—shone resplendent in scarlet and gold, white and gold, blue and silver, and other combinations calculated to strike the eye and impress the mind. Some of the banners were very beautiful, and others singularly appropriate.

An oration was delivered by Grand Rep. R. B. Boylston of S. C., and an Ode written by P. B. Stillaber, Eq., of Boston, was sung by the Choir. Religious services were performed by Rev. E. M. P. Wells of Massachusetts and Rev. J. M. Wiley of Connecticut.

At 5 o'clock a collation was partaken of at the Astor House, and in the evening there was a grand ball at the Academy of Music.

M. SINCLAIR. This distinguished and useful leisure in behalf of the Temperance cause, delivered two addresses in Meonian Hall on Monday last, one in the afternoon to the children, and the other in the evening to the people generally. We were greatly interested in his remarks, as indeed all seemed to be who heard him. He has been a laborer in this cause for a great many years in his native country, Scotland, more particularly devoting himself to the children, and training them for vigorous and persistent warfare against that terrible enemy—strong drink. We understand he will visit and speak in the principal towns in Maine. We bid him God speed in the good work and hope his heart may be encouraged and his hands strengthened by the co-operation and sympathy of all who realize the importance of his cause in which he is engaged.

The Bath *Times* gravely assures us that it does not "envy the heart that could dictate," what was said by us last week in reference to Capt. Brown. It affords us great pleasure to know this. Envy is an exceedingly uncomfortable exercise of the mind, and we should be exceedingly sorry to see it exhibited by our generous and amiable contemporary. Let him not envy, but strive to emulate, the good he may see in others.

MACHIAS REPUBLICAN. Mr. EDEN McKELLAR has become associated with Mr. E. O. WENTWORTH in the publication of the *Machias Republican*. This paper is conducted editorially with marked ability, and we shall be glad to hear of its increased business success under the new arrangement.

The statement which we recently copied from the *Arroostook Pioneer* that an emigrant company for the Arroostook was organizing in Lewiston, and which was discredited by the *Journal* of that place, is reiterated by the *Pioneer* on the authority of Mr. Hill, under whose auspices the company is forming.

HARD TIMES. Who says the times are hard? In the last week's list of importations at New York alone, we find the following commodities enumerated: *Yerusha*, \$49,699; fancy brandy, \$117,708; gin, \$22,684; wine, \$25,154; champagne, \$14,565; silk, \$483,421. The modest sum of a million will be required to pay for these luxuries. And that's the way the money goes."

Subscribers, in notifying us of changes in their post-office address must be particular in stating their former residence.

AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

THE NEW AMERICAN CYCLOPEDIA: A Popular Dictionary of General Knowledge.

Editor's Table.

ACQUITTAL OF SICKLES. The trial terminated on Tuesday last, as was universally expected, in the acquittal of Sickles from the charge of murder. The jury were out about one hour—and at first stood eleven for acquittal and one for conviction. The verdict was received with tumultuous cheers by the audience which crowded the Court room, and by other expressions of satisfaction at the result of the trial. The Counsel for Sickles, publicly returned thanks to the jury for their verdict, and the jury publicly congratulated him on his escape from the condemnation and death of a murderer—a proceeding we apprehend much more accordance with the excited feelings of the moment than with the proprieties, not to say the decencies, of the place and the occasion. When he made his appearance outside, Mr. Sickles was greeted by cheers from those who called upon him for a speech, which he declined, and proceeded to the house of a friend, followed by a cavalcade of carriages and an immense multitude of people, who thronged the doors of his lodgings until a late hour. The counsel of Mr. Sickles were also complimented with a serenade, and Messrs. Brady, Stanton, Magruder and Chilton made speeches to the multitude, probably with as much complacency as though they had succeeded in the achievement of some great public good.

Among the gossip which is afloat in regard to this trial is a statement that the jury, who occupied rooms in the National Hotel, received an extra allowance of two bottles of whiskey and twenty-five cigars per day,—and that when they were not engaged in the court-room, they could often be seen afternoon on the balcony of the hotel, listening to the reading of the Bible by one of their number. Whiskey, tobacco and the Bible!—who wonders at their verdict?

GRAND DIVISION S. OR T. The quarterly session of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance, held at Brunswick last week, was very fully attended. The reports showed that 27 new divisions had been organized during the last quarter and three old ones revived; about 1500 members had been added, and over 1000 lady visitors, since the last meeting. The interest in this most benevolent organization has been steadily increasing during the past year, until the order has reached a point of efficiency and usefulness to which it never before attained. Its operations are performed quietly and without ostentation, thousands of young persons being reclaimed from vicious habits and associations by the silent yet potent influences which are set at work in the division room, and the force of which I do not themselves realize or understand, until the pledges and the support of fraternal hearts and hands have been effectually interposed for their moral salvation. The blessing of heaven must surely crown the labors that are put forth in such a cause.

TIME OF THE FAIR. Some of the papers have spoken of the time fixed upon for the State Fair next fall as objectionable, on the ground that it will occur on the week of the State election. We understand that the subject was duly considered by the Trustees, and the time fixed by them, in view of all the circumstances of the case. Among other things it was desirable not to interfere with the County fairs; it was the only week in the month that the moon would serve; and it was not thought that there would be sufficient interest in the election this year—for State officers only—to interfere seriously with the success of the Fair, even should it be appointed on the same week. We do not know why the politicians should have a monopoly of that week to the exclusion of the farmers and mechanics.

THE LOSS OF THE JASPER. An official account has been received at the English Admiralty of the unfortunate loss of Her Majesty's gunboat Jasper. The complement of that vessel was 56 men and officers, including 12 natives of the Bahamas. The account states that after the vessel became a complete wreck on the Rio Condon Feb. 26, the officers and crew took to their boats and were enabled to reach the shore with all the crew despatched the foul dead. We asked him what brought the man to this. He replied, laconically, "Starvation and abuse." He himself had been compelled to throw brine on the sufferer's bleeding wounds.

The worse of the story, however, has not been told. There is now on board the vessel a lunatic, who is said to have been driven to that condition by the want of proper treatment. It is further said that one man was beaten to death on the deck and thrown overboard; but as "dead men tell no tales," his story, perhaps, will not be narrated on the 5th Range.

THE MAN WHO WAS THROWN OVERBOARD. The man who was thrown overboard was named Francis Williams, and died in his birth, after having been flung, his lacerated back saturated with brine, himself lying slung over the vessel's deck. The crew, who were allowed to follow him, and then kept on deck all night, without sleep, and finally in the morning placed in a boat where the poor fellow sank into that sleep that "knows no waking." The name of the lunatic was Charles Jackson. Ho, with the others, was placed in the U. S. Marine Hospital. The *Bulletin* says that almost all the crew were in nearly as bad a condition as the men whose cases have been so frequently referred to. Of a dozen of them when the vessel was captured by the U. S. Marshal to serve as witnesses, not one could walk straight, so stark a starved condition had they been reduced.

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